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OF NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

"THE SPIRIT GIVETH LIFE"

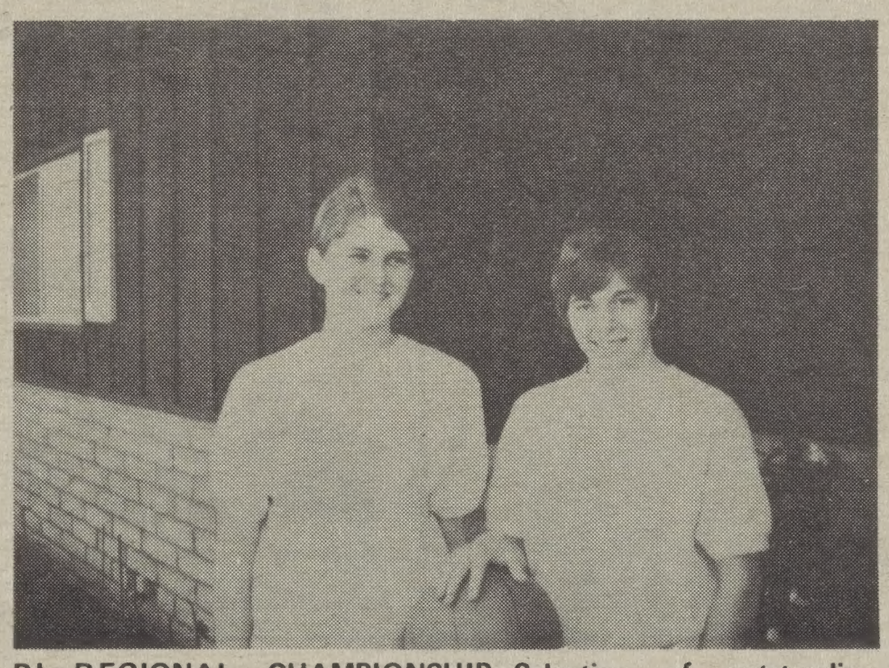
VOL. XLIVII— No. III | Editorial Office: 1122 E. 14th St., San Leandro, Ca. 94577 | MARCH, 1970

Concord girls win bi-regional sports honor

Girls from the Ygnacio Valley Ward Concord Stake, stand in line for congratulations upon the winning of the Bi-Regional Championship. Playing first in The Concord Stake, they won their championship game and trophy in many close contests.

Traveling to the ISC in Oakland, they pulled out a victory over Petaluma, and downing Santa Rosa the following week. This was followed with games with Ukiah Ward, Lafayette Ward and Fairfield teams. Victory in all games earned them the Region Championship.

From this contest they went into the Bi-Region playoffs at San Leandro, where they also won the championship in this category. Two All Star Teams were selected to play an All-Star game, four being selected from the Ygnacio Valley Team: Martie Fellows, Chris Warner, Carolanne Pierce and Colleen Challis. Certificates were presented after this game to the girls for their victory in the Regional and Bi-Regional Championships and a special recognition came when two Ygnacio Valley girls were given special awards: Chris Warner, selected as the most valuable player and Colleen Challis, high point girl. Napa Stake received the Sportsmanship trophy.



BI—REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP—Selection of outstanding players goes to Colleen Challis, high point girl, and Chris Warner, most valuable player. - both from Ygnacio Valley Ward, Concord Stake.

Team members completing this thrilling and successful season were Martie Fellows, Chris Warner, Elaine Bench, Carolanne Pierce, Beth Knecht, Adrienne Matthews, Michele Mortensen and Colleen Challis. Colleen was also assistant sports director for the season.

Congratulations girls for bringing fame and success to the Concord Stake.

Church News starts California edition

A new California edition of the Church News is now being published by the Church News in Salt Lake City.

The California edition will feature at least two pages of news items of special interest to Church members in California. While many of the stories will be published only in the California edition, several will also remain in the regular edition of the Church News.

In beginning the new section, the Church News appointed Thomas C. Brown as Church News representative for Northern California. Brown, a member of the Pleasant Hill Second Ward, is a former reporter with the Deseret News in Salt Lake City. He is currently assistant director of public relations for Gross, Pera & Rockey, a San Francisco and Los Angeles advertising and public relations agency.

Brown will be responsible for establishing a news reporting network in Northern California and will work closely with Stake Public Relations directors to encourage them in news gathering and reporting.

He will also work closely with representatives of Stakes to encourage greater sales of subscriptions for the Church News.

Brown is currently contacting all Stakes for news items in an effort to publicize activities of all areas of the Church in Northern California.

Persons desiring to report for the Church News should contact: Thomas C. Brown, 295 Gloria Drive, Pleasant Hill, Calif., 94523 or call 685-1048.

Newark Ward dramatists to present 'The Crucible'

The Newark Ward of the Fremont Stake on May 9 at 8 p.m. in the Irvington Chapel will present Arthur Miller's play, "The Crucible." It is hoped to be the best production to be seen in the Stake.

Under the direction of our MIA drama director, Clark Viehweg, "The Crucible" is being prepared with meticulous care.

The play which is a rarity in the American Theatre, is finer and more alive than when it first produced in 1953. "The Crucible" can be judged for what it is - a moving drama about the moral problems of American Society. It deals directly on the universal subject of the free man's courageous and never ending fight against mass pressures to make him bow down in coformity. "The Crucible" is a powerful and brilliant four-act play. You will want to make this a real opening night - one that will be remembered as enjoyable.

Those on the production staff are taking their assignments very seriously. A classic type set is being designed to be of utmost flexibility and the costumes carefully worked to present the 1692 era. Our staff will, in short, endeavor to interpret that drama in the church can be light and of sensible taste without overwhelming structure on the stage.

Rehearsals are underway and the members of the cast are eager to create the characters they are portraying. Many of them are turning their talents into a new direction with this production.

The audience is also responsible for the success of this play. Admission will be 50 cents per person or $1 per family. Mark this date on your calendar. It's going to be a promising evening.

Four new Bishops in Hayward Stake

See page 5

...other churches decline; Mormons against trend

Signs of serious trouble in the churches bobbed up in diverse places and at various times during "The Restless '60s," and many wondered if the world's religious organizations weren't headed for serious adversities during the new decade.

Newspaper and magazine headlines in recent months suggest that all is not well in the realm of religion. One popular publication gave top play to an article headlined, "Churches Move Toward Biggest Crisis." Others given prominent places in the press; "Is The Church Dying?"... "Decline of Religion Imminent"..."Apathy Creating Crisis in Churches."

One financial journal in an article on loans to churches observed:

"Declining church attendance, reduced giving, lowering of Sunday School attendance and a decreasing number of men entering seminaries cause grave concern, not only for church leaders but for alert laymen as well."

The New York Times observed:

"The church is facing a serious decline both in membership and in the quantity and quality of its clerical leadership. Church attendance has dropped to the point where only eight of every 100 baptized persons in Christian churches attend church - even on Easter."

The attendance drop in terms of religious affiliation between 1958, a peak year for most churches, and 1969, the low year, is shown by a recent Gallup Poll, as follows:

National average - down 7 per cent, Protestant - down 6 per cent; Catholic - down 11 per cent, Jewish - down 8 per cent.

The poll showed Lutherans and Baptists with the best attendance records among the Protestants.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day-Saints runs conspicuously opposite to this doleful report. It has increased its percentage of attendance at regular Sunday worship service apace with its impressive increase in membership. The change between 1969 and 1964, first year composite records of all wards (parishes), stakes (dioceses) and missions were tabulated, have been recorded as follows:

1964 - up 3.3 per cent; 1965 - up 3.0 per cent; 1966 - up 3.0 per cent; 1967 - up 0.2 per cent; 1968 - up 0.1 per cent; 1969 - up 3.6 per cent (as of Sept. 1).

Counting Sunday School the Mormon Church attendance record is even more significant. Covering an era during which Sunday Schools of several denominations closed down for the summer months and most parishes reported a steady drop in attendance over the decade, the Latter-day Saints continued to increase both the membership and the scope of their world-wide organization.

During the '69s, or from 1958 to 1968, the Mormons ran up their Sunday School attendance record from a low of 33.2 per cent of church membership in 1959 to 43.09 per cent in 1967. The report for the decade by years: 1959 - 33.2 per cent; 1969 - 39.5 per cent; 1961 - 39.19 per cent; 1962 - 39.84 per cent; 1963 - 39.56 per cent; 1964 - 39.66 per cent; 1965 - 29.76 per cent; 1966 - 39.35 per cent; 1967 - 43.09 per cent and 1968 - 42.01 per cent. Attendance of over 40 per cent of their members at Sunday School explains to some extent why the Latter-day Saints are completing and dedicating approximately a church structure a day throughout the world.

In extenuation of the falling away of church members through Christendom, a New York editor noted that religious organizations these days are "preoccupied with practical, social, political and economic issues of the day rather than with a far greater human hunger - the spiritual starvation of mankind."

An editorial in the Tucson Daily Citizen was even more pointed, saying: "Church people are upset because the old values are being discarded as so much rubbish...If there are to be no more absolute spiritual values, there is no need for a church."

"We are becoming a lot of Biblical illiterates," said one woman, as reported in The Arizona Republic. "The ministers aren't preaching or teaching the gospel any more. This tommyrot about God being dead...that the Bible is merely a collection of mythology...that the Old Testament prohibition against immorality is outdated and no longer needed, are insults to man's innate intelligence and can only foster disrespect and contempt for the church."

As trouble in the churches of Christendom become more extant, the question naturally arises, WHY? Could the trouble be that they no longer preach God's word, that they have failed to practice true Christianity?

"The shifting systems of false religion," wrote T.L. Cuyler, "are continually changing their positions; but the Gospel of Christ is the same forever. While other false lights are extinguished or fade out, this trule light ever shineth."

And in its shining it continues to light the path and show the way to more and more of the spiritually-minded of whom the Lord has said: "My sheep will hear my voice" (John 10:2).

Concord's February roadshows are a hit

By Boots Barrus

Outstanding theatrical talents were displayed by the 10 wards comprising the Concord Stake in their February Roadshow activity.

Under the direction of George and Patricia Eldredge, Stake Activity Counselors, Rene Mortenson and Eunice Knicht, and 10th, 11th and 12th evenings were spent in dress rehearsal and performances at the Oak Grove, Clayton Valley and Concord Chapels. Each Ward put on seven performances.

Ten shows were performed each night with no delays or problems making the evenings most enjoyable and interesting to all who saw the smooth working machine of the MIA. Capacity audiences witnessed each performance.

Martinez Ward garnered the trophy for the best overall show, with Pittsburg winning a trophy for costuming and make-up; Concord II, lighting and scenery; Antioch, music; Oak Grove, script; Ygnacio Valley, production and Clayton Valley, dance. Other outstanding shows were presented by Clayton Valley II, Concord I and Concord III.

The original music, dancing and acting displayed by the different wards was so outstanding that plaudits came from many outside the Stake boundaries. The productions showed the many hours of rehearsal and work needed to put on a good show. All wards should be extremely proud of the efforts and talents of the youth and adults of the Concord Stake who carried out the theme "Time and Space - Past, Present, and Future," so beautifully in these productions.

Our hats are off to all the directors, writers, stage hands, accompanists, costume makers, transportation drivers, etc. and to all who generously donated of time, talent and materials to bring this evening to fruition. Congratulations, Concord Stake for the most outstanding evening of Roadshows seen for many years.

Tour includes pageant

A 16-day tour which will include the Hill Cumorah Pageant, will leave Ogden at 6 a.m. July 25.

Those interested in this tour may contact Myron R. Crandall, 725-20th St., Ogden, Utah 84401, who represents the Ogden Travel Center.

Brochures listing details of the $300 tour will be available soon, Brother Crandall said.

Jeanette Ritchie appointed to State Board of Education

Mrs. Jeanette Ritchie, Menlo Park resident, was appointed a new member to the State Board of Education in Sacramento by Gov. Reagan Feb. 11.

She is the daughter of Dr. and Mrs. C. Ronald Smith of Rossmoor, Walnut Creek. Jeanie grew up in Lafayette after moving from Oakland at age 12. She graduated from Acalanes High School and attended the University of Utah for two years, then transferred to Stanford where she received her B.S. degree in Nursing and later her masters degree in education in the field of nursing. After working for two years at Stanford Hospital as an assistant head nurse she taught at San Francisco State College for two years. She is active in Menlo Park Ward. Married to Dr. Stewart Ritchie formerly of Witchita, Kan.

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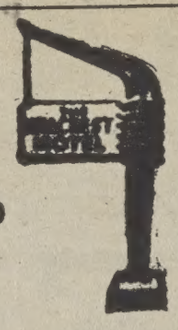

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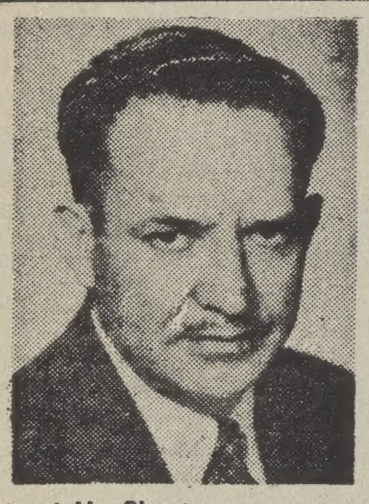

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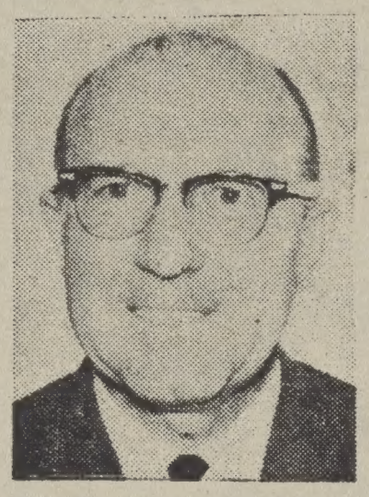

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Approximate Age of Dwelling.....years
No. of Families in Building.....
No. of Stories .....
Is Property:
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Distance to Your Fire Dept.....Miles
Name of your Fire Department:
.....
Property outside city limits?
.....Yes .....No
If Yes, name of nearest town
.....
How far to nearest town.....miles
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New library features

By Dennis L. Lauper, Chief Librarian
Oakland Genealogical Library

If you have not visited and used the local library recently you may be surprised at what you find when you do drop in. Several of the outlying stakes have come in as groups as well as individually and have thrilled at what they have found.

Some of the recent acquisitions are the following:

- A copy of all of the new Locality Care Catalog File of the Genealogical Society of Salt Lake City
- A copy of the "Print Out Index" also from Salt Lake. Checking this is a must requirement before sending in any English Sheets.
- Half of the PRS Index (Pedigree Referral Service which has been discontinued.) In this record there are 860,000 names which were registered by 38,000 patrons so that there is a very good chance that you may find someone else who is interested in researching the same lines you may be working on.
- The complete set of lectures and papers that were delivered by the experts at "The World Conference on Records" held in Salt Lake City last year.

The hours of the library will be the same as last year: 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. Also from noon to 5 p.m. on Saturdays. Patrons classes will be held from noon to 12:45 p.m., and from 7:15 to 8 p.m. on Wednesdays. These classes will feature latest techniques and orientation of the library.

Applications available for Civic Music Association

East Bay residents may now apply for membership in the Oakland Civic Music Association, according to Simon G. Cohen, president.

"Our 21st annual membership drive is now under say," Cohen said. "Often called the cultural baegain of the year, the concert series which we present annually offers the best in music at a reasonable price, six concerts starring internationally known artists for only $9.

Cohen added that no tickets are ever sold for individual concerts, admission being by membership only; these memberships are transferable or can be used as gifts.

"This very modest price is possible only because we operate on a non-profit membership basis, with no reserved seats. The organization is administered by civic-minded volunteers who recognize the importance of improving the quality of community life. Along with vital and necessary economic and social programs must go activities which enrich the esthetic dimensions of our lives."

Planned for the 1970-71 concerts are: Earl Wild, pianist; the Ciro Flamenco Ballet; the Salzburg Marionettes; Judith Raskin, Metropolitan soprano; the Claude Kipnis Mime Theater; and a joint cello-piano recital by Tobias and Goodman.

"This concert," Cohen remarked, "follows our policy of offering a recital opportunity annually to exceptionally talented young professional California musicians."

Further information may be obtained by contacting OCMA headquarters at 2801 Broadway (phone 465-7340), or by writing to Box 303, Oakland 94604.

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Ann Urie and Michael Nunes are wed

A beautiful day completed the recent temple ceremony uniting Michael C. Nunes and Ann Urie for time and all eternity.

The ceremony was performed by Pres. Byrnes, a counselor in the Oakland Temple. Presidency, and witnessed by many friends of the bride and groom including Ann's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Gene Urie and Michael's mother Mrs. Frank Nunes.

Following the ceremony, a luncheon was served at the home of the groom's parents in Newark for the out of town members of both families.

The bridal couple received their friends at the bride's home in the Mission San Jose district of Fremont.

Michael is a graduate of Newark High School and has attended Chabot College. He served as a missionary for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day-Saints for two years in Western Canada. Upon his return from his mission Michael was drafted into the Army and served the last year of his military service in Vietnam.

Ann is a 1969 graduate of Mission San Jose High School and is currently enrolled at California State College, Hayward. She was serving as MIA Chorister and Junior Sunday School organist when she married.

Michael was serving as the deacons Quorum Advisor in the Newark Ward.

UNITED—Mr. and Mrs. Michael (Ann Urie) were recently married in the Oakland Temple.

Busy year for members of Mission Ward

By Leonard W. Cryer

1970 is starting out as a busy year, for the leaders and members of Mission Ward.

On Jan. 31 8-year-old Beverly Jo Ironroad was baptized by her home teacher, Elder Leonard W. Cryer. On Feb. 1 she was confirmed by High Priest Gaurdello Hunter, her Priesthood District Leader.

Also on Feb. 1 her 3-year-old sister, Betty Lynn Ironroad, was blessed by Elder Leonard W. Cryer. At this same meeting, Sister Serena Ironroad, the mother of these two young girls, was called to be a worker in the Primary.

The Ironroad family are American Indians, from the Souix tribe. Sister Ironroad became a convert two years ago. Her busband, Albert, is not a member, but, with Beverly's baptism, six of the eight Ironroad children have been pabtized. Five-year-old Michael Ironroad and Betty are the remaining children, under age for baptism.

In January of this year, four children were blessed.

Erick Larsen, month-old-son of Dr. C. Duane Larsen, and his wife Katherine, was blessed by his father. Elder Robert C. Hamilton blessed his youngest daugher, and a new convert, Priest Malcom Dieckow, had his two young children blessed by members of the bishopric.

Also on Feb. 1 the month-old daughter of Elder Faitotola and Lino Afatasi was blessed by Bishop Scorup.

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Orville R. Atkin dies in Hayward

On Jan. 27, Orville R. Atkin, resident of the Hayward IV Ward, passed away due to cardiac failure. He had one previous attack in December but had enjoyed good health until that time. His death came on the 100th anniversary of his father's birth. At his passing, Brother Atkin was serving as High Priests Group Leader in the Ward.

He was born Nov. 9, 1911 in Mesa, Ariz., one of 10 children born to George and Charlotte Atkin. A member of the church since he was 12, Brother Atkin and Nina Goodman were sealed in marriage in the Mesa Templa in June, 1934, and have provided earthly tabernacles for five lovely daughters.

In March, 1949, the Atkin family moved to Hayward and in the ensuing 20 years noted the growth of the Church around them. Living in the same home remodeled by Brother Atkin who earned his livlihood as a carpenter, they were members of the Hayward Ward, Hayward Second, Hayward Third and Hayward Fourth Ward, and three stakes, Oakland, Oakland-Berkeley, and the Hayward Stake.

In addition to his good wife, Brother Atkin is survived by two living brothers - Orson of Nevada and Albert of the Fremont Stake - and three living sisters all residing in Arizona. Their five daughters are: Nina Joan Hollingsworth of the Fremont Stake; June Yvonne Supinger, (wife os Bishop Joseph Supinger of the Hayward Second Ward); Barbara Kay Black, living in Oklahoma; Nedra Marlene Jones of Hayward Fourth Ward; and Jill Alberta Wittwer of Ogden, Utah. Through these five daughters, Brother Atkin was made a grandfather 11 times.

In working at the trade of carpentry, Brother Atkin took out his general contractor's license a decade ago, has built a number of residences and done extensive remodeling work for many others. It is interesting to note that he increased the living space for the growing families of at least four bishops in the Hayward area as well as for many other members and non-members in the area.

Organ competition

Annually, the American Guild of Organists holds competitive playing session for the young organists of the area. The winner, locally, is sent to the regional convention to compete for the chapter, against winners from other chapters.

In 1969 the local winner sent to the Regional Convention was Martha Sobaje. She is a student at Stockton's University of the Pacific. Against very "stiff" competition, she came off with top honors.

On Sunday, April 5 at 4 p.m. on the regular series of the Interstake Concert Series, on Temple Hill,she will be presented under joint sponsorship of Guild and Interstake.

Her program is as follows: Praludium and Fuga aus E-Moll, Dietrich Buxtehude; Choral Mit 9 Partiten: Was Gott tut, das ist wohlgehan, Johann Pachelbel; Trio Sonata VI aus G-due (S-530), J.S. Bach; Praeludium and Fuge uber B.A.C.H., Franz Liszt; and Finale from Symphony I, Louis Vierne.

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of Northern California

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EDITOR
Howard M. King

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Under direction of the Messenger Inter-Stake Committee
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Close To Home

The Ward News In Review

Fremont 111

By Gladys M. Clayson

"Outer Space" was the theme of our Ward carnival held in the evening of Feb. 7. The carnival was sponsored by the Relief Society, but they shared booths with the MIA Girls Camp girls and the Webelo Scouts, also the Primary had a birthday penny booth. The event was a great success and a lot of fun for everyone.

Planning the event were Pat Heiss, general chairman, Jan Skubal, food chairman, Carol Harris, game booths and Marion Foote, publicity.

The Relief Society also has two new counselors, our President Loralee Thompson has chosen Beverley Williams as Education Counselor, taking Joyce Hills place, Joyce was called to work in the Stake Relief Society and Jan Skubal is the new welfare counselor, taking Pat Toborg's place. Pat resigned in order to go to business school.

Between their booth at the carnival and selling candy bars the Webelo Scouts were able to earn over $100, which enabled them and their fathers to make an overnight trip to the snow. This was a much looked-for-ward-to event for them. They stayed at Leo Williams cabin, where Bro. Williams fed and treated them like royalty.

In the way of scouts, we are very pleased to announce that on Scout Sunday Keith Daveline received his Duty to God Award. Also David Nicolaysen, Scott Seavers and Jim Harris received their Duty to God Trail Award. Congratulations to all of these fine young men.

There were some members of our ward who had the opportunity to travel this months. Jerry and Jody Jensen, and Deon and Lila Bringhurst spent a week in Chicago Ill., at a dental convention, and Lane and Marion Foote had a weeks holiday in Hawaii. Also Erma Henderson has gone back east for six weeks to visit her daughter who recently had a baby.

Fremont 1111

The month of February has seen some changes in Fremont Fourth Ward organizations, and a great many activities centering around the patriotic holidays. Sunday evening, Feb. 1, a special Boy Scout program was held, with the boys participating on the program. Feb. 20 is the date of the Cub Scout Birthday dinner and party.

On Sunday evening, Feb. 15, a special program was held in the chapel, giving special recognition to the visiting teachers of Fremont Fourth Ward Relief Society who had achieved 100 per cent of their teaching assignments during 1969. A pink and white valentine motif was carried out in the decorations and the refreshments served afterward. Musical numbers were performed by two separate groups of the sisters in the ward, with Brother Don Edwards as soloist in one group. President Green of Fremont Stake Presidency was the speaker of the evening. A beautiful tribute to the visiting teachers was read by Relief Society President Patricia Hemenway. Bishop Alma Jensen presented pink roses to each of the 100 per cent visiting teachers. Husbands were invited guests to this program, and the evening was most enjoyable, giving the Relief Society sisters recognition for a job well done and real encouragement to do even better in the year ahead.

On the evening of Jan. 30, a "Hard Times" dinner was held in the Cultural Hall. Sister Anita Sare, ward chairman of the Food Storage Program, was general chairman of this event. Ward members entered, wearing their "hard times" clothing, some in genuine rags and tatters, signed in at the "unemployment agency" at the door, then proceeded to tables where they worked in groups to complete posters encouraging food storage. Several very excellent posters were created. The meal served was largely made up of foods which every family can and should store—rice, beans, powdered milk, yeast, etc. Great quantities of home-made bread and jam were consumed, along with delicious bean and rice casseroles. A program featuring a comical reading, "old-time" music by Jack and Beverly Garbett of Fifth Ward, and an original skit depicting food storage and wise saving of household items was enjoyed by the group.

Everyone present entered into the fun and enjoyed an evening of good, old fashioned food and fun, with proper emphasis on making the best use of what we have, and storing for future needs. Other activities in the months to come will call further attention to the food storage program.

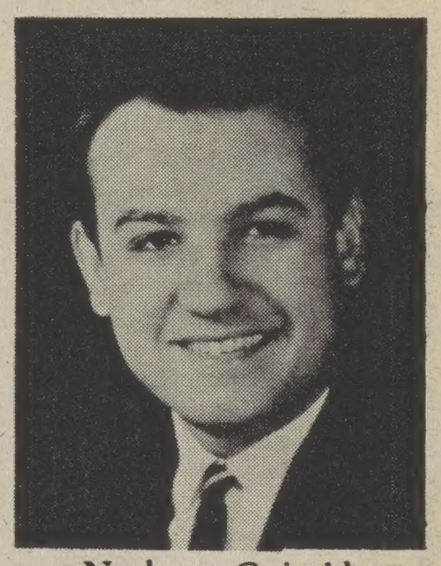
Sunset Ward

By E. Hess

Splendid co-operation is the new keystone of Bishop Fred I. Robins and counselors of Sunset

Cont. on page 8

Norberto Guinaldo in concert March 20



Norberto Guinaldo

The brilliant Argentine concert artist, NORBERTO GUINALDO, who will play an organ concert at The Interstake Center on "Mormon Temple Hill", 4780 Lincoln Avenue, Oakland, On *Friday, March 20, 1970* at *8:15 P.M.* A resident of the United States since 1959, he is becoming one of the outstanding performers and composers of organ of the younger generation.

The strong inclination towards religious music he felt led him to participate in various choral groups until the beginning of his career at the *Escuela Superior de Organo,* under the tutelage of the Italian organist, Hermes Forti. He continued his musical studies at the *School of Fine Arts of La Plata University* and the *Catholic University Santa Maria de los Buenos Aires,* both in Buenos Aires.

Young Norbert's advancement was rapid under the guidance of Maestro Forti, and he was named to be his assistant at the *Basilica del Santisimo Sacramento,* a favorite church of high society in the heart of Buenos Aires. In 1959 he came to the United States.

His trip to the U.S.A. one month after he married a lovely Argentine L.D.S. girl was the beginning of the arduous task of adjusting to a new environment, and of directing his efforts towards the goal of his life in a highly competitive field: concertising and composing. Having built a considerable reputation in the past four years through his compositions and performances, he finds himself in demand to play increasingly frequent recitals, and to compose for the organ.

Although he prefers to write for his own favorite instrument, he has produced works for piano, voice, chorus and strings, and brass ensembles. Mr. Guinaldo's compositions have received honors in country-wide competitions.

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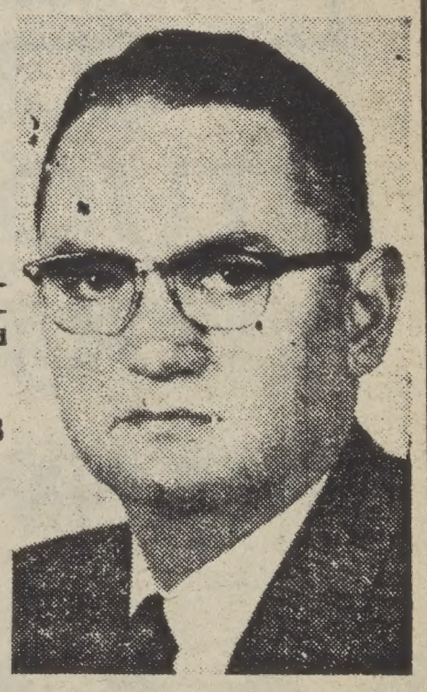


Four new Bishops preside in Hayward Stake

HAYWARD—Seated, center, Bishop Glen B. Edmunds with Jacob R. Hamblin First Counselor left, and James Gary Olsen Second Counselor, right. Back row left to right, L. Chester Bryson, Lawrence E. Carlson, Cardon Crockett, and John Hancock clerks.

The past several months have seen the calling, sustaining and ordination of new Bishops in four of the eight wards in Hayward Stake.

Appreciation was extended to the Bishoprics released and pledges of renewed support given to the new ward leaders.

Bishop Edmunds

Newest Bishop is Glen B. Edmunds of the Hayward Ward with Jacob R. Hamblin and James Gary Olsen as counselors. Bishop Edmunds was born in Manti, Utah, and attended the University of Utah graduating with honors and a B.S. degree in 1952. He married Gweneth Passey in the Salt Lake temple the same year and they are the parents of three sons. During the years 1952-57, he served in the U.S. Air Force.

Bishop Edmunds did graduate work at Syracuse University, the University of Utah, Oregon State University, and University of California at Berkeley and holds two masters degrees. He teaches science at Canyon High School and is active in the Teacher's Associations having served as its president. His church experience includes service in the Sunday School, YMMIA, Aaronic Priesthood and counselor to the three previous Bishops of the Ward.

Bishop Salsbury

Bishop Larry P. Salsbury was born in 1936 in Los Angeles. He was educated at Torrance BYU, El Camino Junior College and Golden West College. He married Barbara Thayer and they have two children. He is employed by Parsons, Brinkerhoff, Tudor and Bechtel in the building of BART. He is a convert of 11 years and was the only member of his family in the Church for 9 years. He has served in the Sunday School superintendency, MIA superintendency, Elders Quorum President and councellor in the Bishopric.

Bishop Supinger

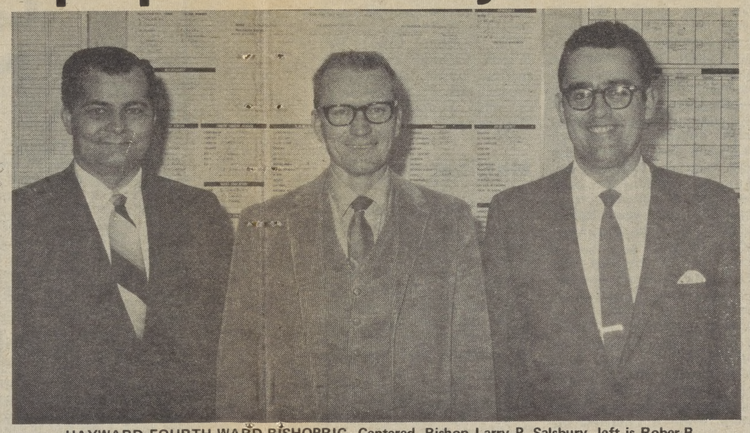
Bishop Joseph A. Supinger was born in 1933 in Covington, Ohio. He joined the Air Force and spent most of his four years in California. He was converted to the gospel at Camp Parks, through the efforts of two returned missionaries and the fine Church athletic program. He married June Yvonne Atkin in the Arizona Temple and they have five children. He is employed as paymaster at Kaiser Engineering. Included in his Church activities are Aaronic Priesthood secretary, councellor in Sunday School and MIA superintendencies, Ward and Stake Clerk.

Roger Dennis

Roger Dennis was born in 1938 in Modesto. He was educated at Modesto and the University of North Carolina. He served in the Army as a paratrooper. He married Shirley Iness in 1963 and they have two children. He is employed by Farmers Insurance Co. as a claims adjustor. His Church callings include dance instructor fna age group councillor in the MIA.

Charles Finell

Charles Wayne Finell was born in 1937. He was educated at BYU and Diablo Valley College. He served in the Air Force. He married Edelgard Skopak in the Swiss Temple in 1964. He is employed by Pacific States Steel Co. Among his Church assignments are Sunday School teacher, assistant dance director, Elders Quorum secretary.



HAYWARD FOURTH WARD BISHOPRIC—Centered, Bishop Larry P. Salsbury, left is Rober B. Dennis First Counselor and on the right Charles Wayne Finall, Second Counselor.

Bill Staffenson

Bill Staffenson is a native Californian. His family was converted when he was a young boy. He served in the Swedish Mission. He attended BYU. He married Carol Parkinson in Salt Lake Temple and they have two children. He has served as Ward Clerk, in the Sunday School superintendency, Deacon's Quorum advisor and various teaching assignments. He is employed by United Airlines in San Francisco.

Bates Brian

Bates Brian was born in Salt Lake in 1922. He was educated at the University of California and is a teacher of biological science at Chabot College in Hayward. He served in the Air Corps during World War II. He married Marion Lee and they have three children. His Church positions include all positions in the Elders Quorum, a member in the Sunday School Superintendency and the Stake Board.

Jacob Hamblin

First Counselor Jacob Hamblin, 37, is a native of St. Johns, Ariz., and a descendent of the great early pioneer of the same name. He graduated from the BYU with a B.S. in chemistry and completed dental school at Baylor College of Dentistry in Dallas, Tex., and now practices in Hayward. He married Joan Seymour and they are the pround parents of five children. Brother Hamblin's church service includes Stake YMMIA for six years and a counselor to former Bishop Bernard O. Stewart for the past 4 ½ years.

James Olsen

James Gary Olsen, sustained as Second Counselor, was born in 1936 in Bear Lake, Idaho. Following two years at Utah State University at Logan, he received his mission call and served in the Northern California Mission. Upon his return he completed schooling at BYU graduating with a B.S. degree in physics in 1969. For 5½ years he served as a pilot in the USAF, one year being spent in Vietnam. He is presently employed as a pilot for Western Airlines. Gary and Kathleen Decker were married in the Salt Lake Tample and are the parents of four children. Before his present calling Gary worked in the Sunday School, Elders Quorum, Aaronic Priesthood-Adult, and as High Priest Group Leader.

Bishop Ranney

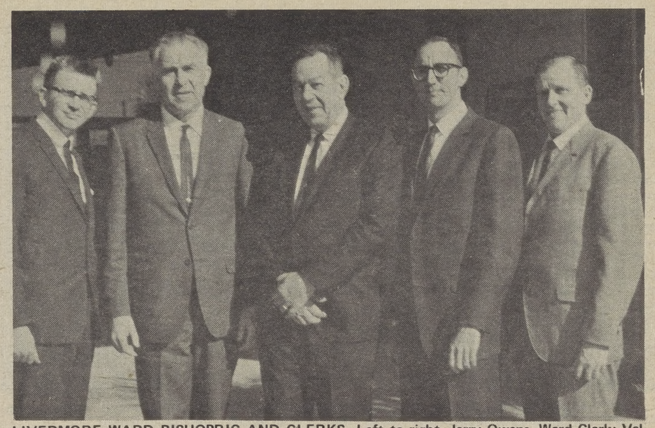
Bishop Wilbur L. Ranney was born in Blanding, Utah, in 1914. He lived there until called to the Spanish-American Mission. He married Clementina Brown and they have three sons. He served with the Coast Guard during World War II and has been employed by the U.S. Immigration Dept. for 28 years. He has served a Stake Mission, as Sunday School teacher and Stake Board member, Councillor in the Bishopric, etc.

Valjin Black

Valjin Black was born in Benjamin, Utah, in 1923. He was educated at the University of New Mexico and BYU. He served in World War II as an engineer aboard the U.S.S. Wisconsin. He is employed as an engineer by Sandia Corp. in Livermore. He married Leah Hickens in Salt Lake Temple and they have four children. Among his positions in the Church are Aaronic Priesthood advisor, High Council, Sunday School teacher, Explorer advisor.

Val Finlaysen

Val Finlaysen was born and raised in the Salt Lake Valley. He was educated at the University of Utah. He is a physicist at Lawrence Radiation Laboratory in Livermore. He served a mission in North Germany. He married VaLayne Anderson and they have four children. He has served as Seminary teacher, Seventies Group Leader, Sunday School superintendency.



LIVERMORE WARD BISHOPRIC AND CLERKS—Left to right, Jerry Owens, Ward Clerk; Val Black, First Counselor; Bishop Wilbur L. Ranney; Val Finlayson, Second Counselor, and Darell Christiansen, financial clerk.

SECOND WARD BISHOPRIC,CLERKS—Seated left to right, Bill Staffenson first counselor, Bishop Joseph A. Supinger and Bates Brian second counselor. Standing left to right, Harold G. Townsend and Steven W. Booras, clerks.

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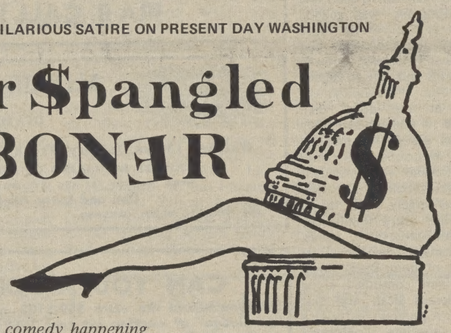

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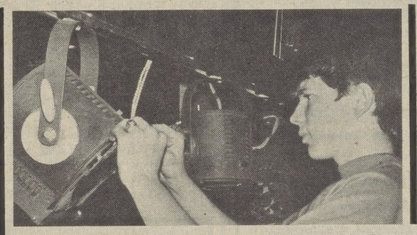

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Ward Reports

Cont. from page 3

Ward during the past months. "Reverence," the 1970 theme inspired by the late President McKay and the "Vitality of Mormonism" delivered by Br. Howard Owen of television fame drew capacity congregations.

A Court of Honor for Boy Scouts with Scout Master James Hansen and staff, presented the Golden Eagle Award to Walter Thomas Posey. Other individuals honors awarded to troops. Counselor Bryan Wheeler announced that Missionary Thomas Wheeler Jr., in Red Hill, Surrey, England, has converted several, in his new field.

H.P. Callis Morrill is the new Gospel Doctrine Teacher and is with the U.C. Medical Faculty. A Family Home Evening, with a potluck supper and program will be an event of pre-Easter, and a get-acquainted for new members in Cultural Hall.

According to Bishop Ralph Engel, 1970 Genealogy Program has been a realistic and unsentimental one, with the youth coming to these workshop meetings. Sr. Hess and Sunday genealogy members are continuing to use library fields to find material to stiumlate and enrich the curriculum, while "brining old family records" to new form for Temple Work processing. The Stake report was 90 per cent attendance, and a post-Easter supper with travelogue is scheduled for early April at Sunset Ward. Srs. Elaine Stewart and Phyllis Chiaro, Alice Ray are in charge of reservations, Br. Peco, Br. David Neff, A. Middleton, Evan Ray, Ralph Peco, arrangements. Tentative date - April 7 at 6:45 p.m. Pot luck. Several special program events.

Sr. Sandra Mellor presented a group of Special Teacher Training certificates from the 11-week course. Supt. Lawrence Clarke has an enthusiastic S.S. faculty, and good results with Sr. Fife and singing groups.

Fremont Ward

By Dorothy A. Spoon

Boy Scout Week - The term "Boypower Leads to Manpower," was demonstrated by the talks aptly given Sunday Feb. 8 at Sacrament by Scout Vernon Spoon and Sr. Scouts Tom Payne and Jay Pimentel. Webelo Scout Bobby Jeppson gave the benediction.

On Feb. 10 Assistant Scout Master Larry Podwys of Troop 160 awarded nine scouts their ranks, and Scout Master Joe Gallegos and Assistant Scout Master Reno Natali awarded 25 merit badges and two troop patches. The three boys in troop 160 who participated in the Day Program scored on the examination sufficient to participate in person by holding a city position for the City of Fremont and the City of Newark. On Feb. 10 Ron Pimentel from Troop 160 participated in a City of Fremont position with 24 other scouts from other troops. On Feb. 14, Dan Avery served in the capacity of school counselor for the Fremont Unified School District, with several other scouts from other scout troops. As personnel director for the city of Newark, Vernon Spoon, of Troop 160, took an active part in the operation of municipal government on Feb. 19 with several scouts from other scout troops.

Corsage and all, Fremont Ward dads as escorts for their daughters, played games and danced at the Feb. 6 Dad and Daughter Primary Lihoma Girls' annual affair. The papier-mache table decorations, depicting animals out of the wilds of Africa, in keeping with the theme "African Safari," were made by the girls.

Box dinners prepared for their dads by the girls (with mother's help) and a sheet cake, prepared and decorated in a jungle scene, by first counselor Sister Roberta McBride, was the evening menu.

Sister Norma Stone, second councelor was in charge of the affair, and she with President Carol Wakley, Sister Roberta McBride, Sister Maxine Frey and Gaynote Teacher and 19 Lihoma girls and their dads were present.

Newark Ward

By Anna Lane

Cub Scouts of Pack 197 and scout's families enjoyed an evening at the Chabot College Planetarium learning about the sky. They have another fun activity scheduled for Feb. 28 to go to the mountains to play in the snow.

The Ward Mutual, under the direction of Henry Dirkmaat and LeDon Taylor, had 13 cars filled with 74 teenagers that spent a full day in the snow on Feb. 12.

Jack Huber was released as the scoutmaster for Troop 197 and Mike Walker was sustained to take his place.

Don Jenson was released as a stake missionary on Feb. 8.

On Scout Sunday, Feb. 8, Kevin Ivie, Richard Westover, Roger Rasmussen, Lee Griffith, and Donald Wildes from the Guide Patrol class received their Tenderfoot badges. Eric Carlson and Greg Receps of Troop 197 also received their Tenderfoot badges. Robert Madson received his Second Class badge and also merit badges for swimming and canoeing which he had completed at summer scout camp this past year. Robert Nyland received his First Class badge at the meeting.

Sat., Feb. 14, Explorer Post 197 had a car wash at John Dienhart's Union 76 Station on the corner of Fremont and Thornton. Jeff Selmos, Robert Nyland, Dan Hansen, Joe Andrews, David Larson, Rock Pentecost, Jack Davis, and Kent Westover realized $24 cash to help finance a flight trip to the historic town of Columbia on March 21. Bruce Densley, Bob James, and Robert Harrison will be three of the pilots for this flight trip.

Under the direction of Clark Veihweg, the play "The Crucible" will be presented at the Irvington Chapel on May 9.

San Francisco

By G. Stracke

The many friends of Edna Gallup, long time faithful member, wish her much happiness as she takes up residence in the new Satellite Apartments in Oakland.

Richard W. Lindsay, son of Clyde and Janice Lindsay, left for the New Zealand Mission. His maternal grandparents, Delbert and LaVerne Rock, and paternal grandmother, Marie Lindsay, attended services in which Richard and his mother spoke; his father, a colonel stationed at the Presidio and Stake High Councilman, was absent due to a military assignment.

Terry Tolley, dietition graduate of BYU, has been accepted as an intern at Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit, Mich.

Among the many dental students in our ward is a champion wrestler: Joe Lyman, who held Western Athletic Conference Championship title for two years. Joe is from Delta, Utah, graduated from BYU where he met his wife Sylvia who has been called as Relief Society instructor.

Ward Music Chairman Marjanne Pearson has moved to Daly City Ward, so Doyle Boss is now music chairman with Ross Arrington and Kathleen Easter complementing the committee.

Robert Krushinsky was assigned Vietnam duty so Miriam and the four Krushinsky youngsters returned to their home in Southern California to await Bob's return.

Jochim Karl Christian Nieman, son of John and Patricia Nieman, along with Nicole Neumarker, daughter of Rudy and Leslie Neumarker, were blessed by their fathers.

The institute hosted S.F. Singles activities including a pillow party where guests brought their own pillows to sit on while watching the movie "High Noon."

Martinez Ward

By Della Greathouse

On Jan. 25 a very special presentation was given by Ida Perrins on behalf of the Relief Society, when a 3 in 1 of the Standard Works was presented to the Martinez Ward in memory of the late Jessie Shaw. Many who knew her were touched by the wonderful spirit which she radiated.

The MIA is bursting with pride at the winning of the first place trophy for the Concord Stake Roadshow's best performance. Many thanks go the many hard working directors, the music department and costuming, Claudie Monson, Jenness Shepherd, Janice Whipple and Nana Lea Busby respectfully. The spirit in which our young people worked so hard makes Martinez Ward very proud.

Our Mutual Marrieds group of about 40 plus met at the Renshaw's on Jan. 31, then proceded on to a delightful show "Kismet." Upcoming events for this group include an ice hockey game on March 20 and a Bay cruise on May 15.

Audrey Morgan called as S.S. secretary releases Sis. Midge Fletcher who served 15 years of devoted effort to her call. Arletta Adams is the new Relief Society secretary releasing Elva Shaw. Dorothy Burgess is the Ward Calendar Coordinator. Jim Barri, as assistant scout master, Bessie Duke, assistant S.S. secretary.

Duty to God awards were given to David Whipple, Mark Lance and Danny Morgan.

Pittsburg Ward

By Boots Barrus & Thora Astle

Scouts to be proud of are Kevin Johnson and Donald Neves from Troop 195, who were selected to participate in the City Government Day.

Donald spent the day with the city building inspector and toured the city to watch his special duties. Kevin was with the chief of police and observed our law enforcement in action. Our congratulations to these two top scouters for the honors and good will they have brought to our Pittsburg Ward troop.

***

Congratulations to all the MIA youth for their outstanding performance in the past Roadshow which garnered the trophy for the best costuming and make-up. Working long hours in practice brought this achievement to many of the

Cont. on page 9

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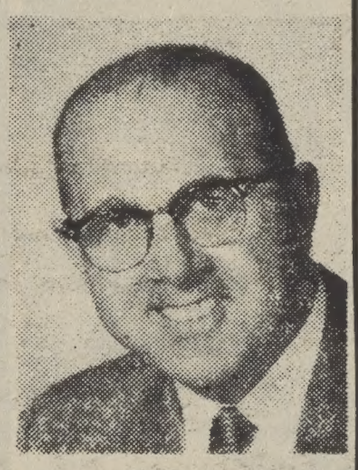

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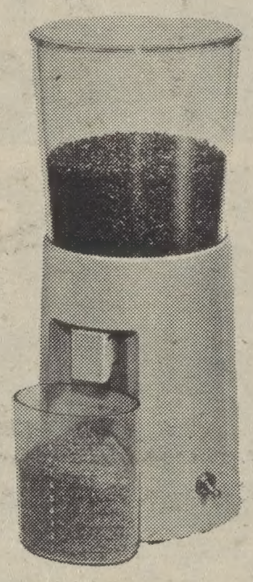

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Ward Reports

Cont. from page 8

youth who have not had the opportunity of participating in such a production. Entitled, "To Evolute is Absolute," the satire theme of Darwin's theory was portrayed by Karen Morrison, Gloria Paine, Mary Muceus and Jennifer Chomor as the college girls.

Apes were Jon Muceus, Mike McLean, Stan Magleby and Gary Johnson. Jay Sanchez and Kevin Johnson played the part of two little monkeys and Bernard Phillips was the Indian. D. Rees Magleby livened the performance with his portrayal of Tarzan and the cave girls were brought to life by Jaci Hollingshead, Jolyn Morrison, Marlene Dozier, Edith Eable, Kathy Dutton, Hazel Torphy, Karol VanHorn, Pam Harris, Crystal Dozier, Martha Nelson, Jeanne Phillips, Melanie Epling, Elva Johnson and Debbie Long.

Written and directed by Boots Barrus and Thora Astle, crew members who worked long hours to build the production were Shirley Morrison, costume chairman; Marjorie Lunt and Melanie Epling, choreographers; make-up, Elva Johnson, assisted by Boots Barrus, Thora Astle and MIA workers; lighting, Roy VanHorn, Dawna Peters, Marrion Sovereign, and Frances Lowry; transportation. Glen Payne; props, Tom and Sue Monteath, Frank Fountain, Imogene Hood; scenery art work, Nelma Kersey; stage manager, Howard Hood; stage hands, Don Sovereign, Howard Hood Sr., Iren Barrus, Keith Sawyer; and posters were prepared by Karen Morrison.

To all who provided transportation and helped in the making of the costumes and who provided materials and assistance in any way, the MIA is most appreciative and gives thanks to all for bringing this activity to a successful conclusion.

Castro Valley

Traveling to the Castro Valley Ward for the annual Liahona dinner were Liahona members Pres. and Sis. Ted Madsen, Pres. and Sis. Charlie Peters, Bishop and Sis. Gomer Arnold, Bishop and Sis. Rex Ivie, Bro. and Sis. Raymond Michael, Bro. and Sis. Russell Cornelius, Bro. and Sis. Archie Pulham, Bro. and Sis. John Kuntsmen and Bro. and Sis. Irel Barrus.

Castro Valley Ward served the 150 guests with a well prepared chicken dinner, having the young girls serve the guests to fill service hours needed for their MIA individual awards.

Elections were held with John McKinnin being elected as president for the second term. From Concord Stake Irel Barrus was elected director at large, and Russell Cornelius as Concord Stake Director. The enjoyable evening concluded with entertainment by the Walnut Creek Camp girls who gave a preview of life at Liahona with their stunts and songs.

Concord Ward

Feb. 7, saw the Concord Chapel filled to capacity for the Honor Activity for the 1970 MIA year. Honoring the workers of this organization, the afternoon was spent in presenting the women who had given so much to this organization - dating back many years, and adding up to many years of service. Martinez was honored as the Mother ward and Pittsburg as the next giving the longest time in years of service.

Under the direction of Cathie Wright, Stake Age Group Counselor, the general chairman was Billie Michael, favors, invitations and presentations by Pres. Jean Paquette; program and narrator, Gloria Magleby; decorations, Sharyn Ellis; presentation and individual awards to current presidents, Julie Gilchrist; refreshments, Juanita Banning; rose presentation to Golden Gleaners, Vivian Wilhite and Carol Blake; and escorting of special guests, Sharyn Larsen.

Portraits of all presidents of YWMIA were donated through the courtesy of Marilyn Clayton of the Walnut Creek Stake.

At the conclusion of the program, the guests were treated to refreshments made by all the ward age group leaders and teachers. Each brought her favorite dessert and this proved so effective and was such a success that a booklet will be made to distribute the special recipes of these leaders.

Sis. Paquette and Wright are to be congratulated for the success of a unique and interesting afternoon.

Rare church documents donated to BYU

One of the richest collections of Mormon Church documents from the Kirtland, Ohio, period of the 1830s has been donated to the Brigham Young University Library by the descendents of Newell K. Whitney, a trustee-in-trust for the Church during the Kirtland and Nauvoo periods.

Mrs. R. Whitney Groo, of Salt Lake City, and her two children—Mrs. Barbara (Leo A.) Groo Hansen of Salt Lake City; and R. Whitney Groo Jr. of South San Francisco—have made the collection available to the BYU Library.

Included in the collection are printed materials, manuscripts, account books, land records, rosters of the Nauvoo Legion and Mormon Battalion, as well as documents of early LDS leaders, Church money, and manuscripts of revelations before they were printed in 1835.

BYU Director of Libraries Donald K. Nelson observed, "This is perhaps the best collection of the Kirtland, Ohio, period existing today. This is a very lean period in Church history and the University is very grateful to be the recipient of this collection."

After a complete accounting by special collections curator Chad Flake, the collection will be available to qualified researchers.

Despite their age, the collection of documents is in fair condition. The items have been in a box in Mrs. Groo's basement in Salt Lake City for the past 50 years and not until recently did she really find out what "those old boxes contained."

The collection came from Kirtland, Ohio, had additions made in Nauvoo, Ill., and was brought to Salt Lake City by Newell K. Whitney after the first settlement was made in 1847. The Whitney homestead was located where the Relief Society headquarters are across the street from the temple. Whitney's youngest daughter Mary Jane married Isaac Groo.

The donor, Mrs. R. Whitney Groo, was living in the home of her Grandmother Groo when the latter died. At one time Mrs. Groo was told to "get rid of all those old boxes of things."

But she felt that if they had been kept in the family this long, something about them must be important. Therefore, she stored them in her basement for many years.

When Mrs. Groo discovered a few years ago what the contents were, she and her family members felt that they should be available for research purposes and safekeeping. The collection has been in a bank vault from then until now.

Detailed items of the collection include the following: a first edition (1830) of the Book of Mormon; William Clayton's LDS Immigration Guide; four heretofore unknown Kirtland imprints; proclamations from the First Presidency to the people; revelations in 1835; Kirtland money; a copy of a Nauvoo Broadside, Jan. 17, 1846, not in any collection in the U.S.; account books and other items are documents rich in Joseph Smith land deeds; 20 documents concerning the Nauvoo Legion; account book of the boat "Maid of Iowa" purchased by the Church to bring immigrants up the Mississippi River; an early printing of the Doctrine and Covenants; handwritten indictments against Joseph Smith by Luke and Lyman Johnson and Ruben Hadlock; one single sheet of the Northern Times of Kirtland, with only two other issues known and these are at Yale University; a book of 1850 Salt Lake City brands; and early issues of the Deseret News.

Also included are autographs on the various documents of Joseph and Hyrom Smith, Oliver Cowdry, Sydney Rigdon, Brigham Young, Orson Pratt, Alpheus Cutler, Lyman and Luke Johnson, David Whitmer, William Clayton, and Isaac Groo.

HISTORY—Scrutinizing some of the Kirtland, Ohio, money printed during the 1830's and included in a collection of early Mormon Church documents donated to the BYU Library are from left, Donald K. Nelson, director of BYU Libraries; Mrs. R. Whitney Groo and her daughter Mrs. Barbara (Leo A.) Groo Hansen, both of Salt Lake City, donors.

In 1704, Alexander Selkirk, a mate on the English ship, Cinque Ports, marooned himself on Juan Fernandez Island off Chile for four and one-half years and thus became the origin of the Robinson Crusoe story.

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Spanish American Branch seeks members

By Leonard W. Cryer

1970 is being called the "Year of the Lamanite" by the members of the Spanish-American Branch, of the San Francisco Stake.

President Reed C. Grandy of this branch accepted the challenge from San Francisco Stake President, Irven G. Derrick, to increase his membership by 88 members, before the March 15 San Francisco Stake Conference. By meeting this challenge, the Spanish American "Branch" would then become known as the "Spanish-American Ward!"

Six full-time Elders, for the Spanish Mission are doing their utmost, with the help of the branch members, to help Present Grandy to meet this dead-line. With the Lord's help, they will!

Only a few short years ago, the Spanish-speaking members of Mission Ward were set apart, as a Spanish-speaking branch. Its being membership was only a few more than they now need, to become a ward. The first branch president was John Salas. President Grandy, upon his return from a full-time mission in South America, was called to be the second president. At the same time, he became president, he also started his college education. at the University of California, and it seems that both his presidency, and his college education will terminate at the same time - one, by the ward needing to be lead by a bishop, and the other by his graduation and start on his career, in the profession of architecture.

Even if they do not become a "ward" in 1970, these Spanish American branch members know that this goal will soon be achieved, if not in the "Year of the Lamanite"—1970, then in the "Decade of the Lamanite"—the 1970s!

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Concord basketball news

The junior basketball team of Concord Third Ward had an undefeated season in Stake play. In the region play they defeated Hayward by a one point margin and then lost their second game to Napa Stake.

Ygnacio Valley Ward went into region play as our second place team in the junior division. They were very successful, winning their first two games and then losing their third game to Ukia. Two of their players, Gary Leavitt and Jeff Ashworth, received an honorable mention for the most valuable player award.

The M Men team from Concord Ward represented the stake very well. They won over Santa Rosa the first game 52-38, the second round over Marin 58-41, and then lost the third round to Walnut Creek Stake 67-50.

Mike Bowen won the award for the most points scored in three games with a total of 68 points.

Clayton Valley Second Ward playing in the over 30 division had a perfect record winning all of their stake games.

In division play an all star team was chosen from the stake teams. It was composed of Ralph Cullimore, Bill Lloyd, Mark Magleby, Bruce Rossberg, Merl Hult, Lowell Budge, Douglas Hartelt, Jerry Thompson, Gil Walker, Ron Williams, and coached by Claude Van Vliet. They won the region championship by defeating Walnut Creek 86-52, Marin 88-45, and Hayward 78-67. Ralph Cullimore was given the award for the tournaments most valuable player.

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Word of Wisdom Dimensions

How poor a blessing mortality must seem when sickness and fatigue wrack the body. I'm going to outline in this column a few exercises that when followed daily will help you to feel more alive and energetic. I'm sorry I cannot outline more exercises at this time, but space will not permit. In coming issues we shall continually add new movements for your progression to maximum condition.

Have you notices when after a brisk walk you feel wonderfully awake and alert? This is because of muscular activity which produces increased circulation throughout every area of the body, also an increased depth of breathing supplies a balanced amount of fresh oxygen to the blood stream which is carried as fuel to the muscular and nervous systems. When we exhale we get rid of carbon monoxide and waste matter filtered from the blood stream. Heavy breathing which brings increased oxygen into our bloodstream, rides us of poisonous wastes, develops muscles connected with breathing and increases rib cage area.

Laziness, on the other hand, is usually the affects of accumulated wastes, circulation and oxygen deficiency. So here's to new life:

Number one: Jumping jacks - this movement will work all muscluar areas of the body. Begin standing with feet together hands on hips. Jump, spreading the feet apart and swing the arms up over the head clapping the hands together. Repeat jump, only this time bring the feet once more together and swing the arms to the sides of your body.

Number two: Touching toes - This movement strengthens the lower region of the back, pelvic girdle and sacrum. Standing with arms stretched over the head, without bending the legs touch your toes (exhale on way down) raise back to standing stretched position (inhale deeply while rising) and begin movement again.

Repeat exercises 10 times at start, gradually increasing each day to one full minute. Good luck on the new you.

Until we again share time together, may God bless you with health and happiness.

The Main Forum

The Gospel In Perspective

HOWARD KING

The Looking Glass

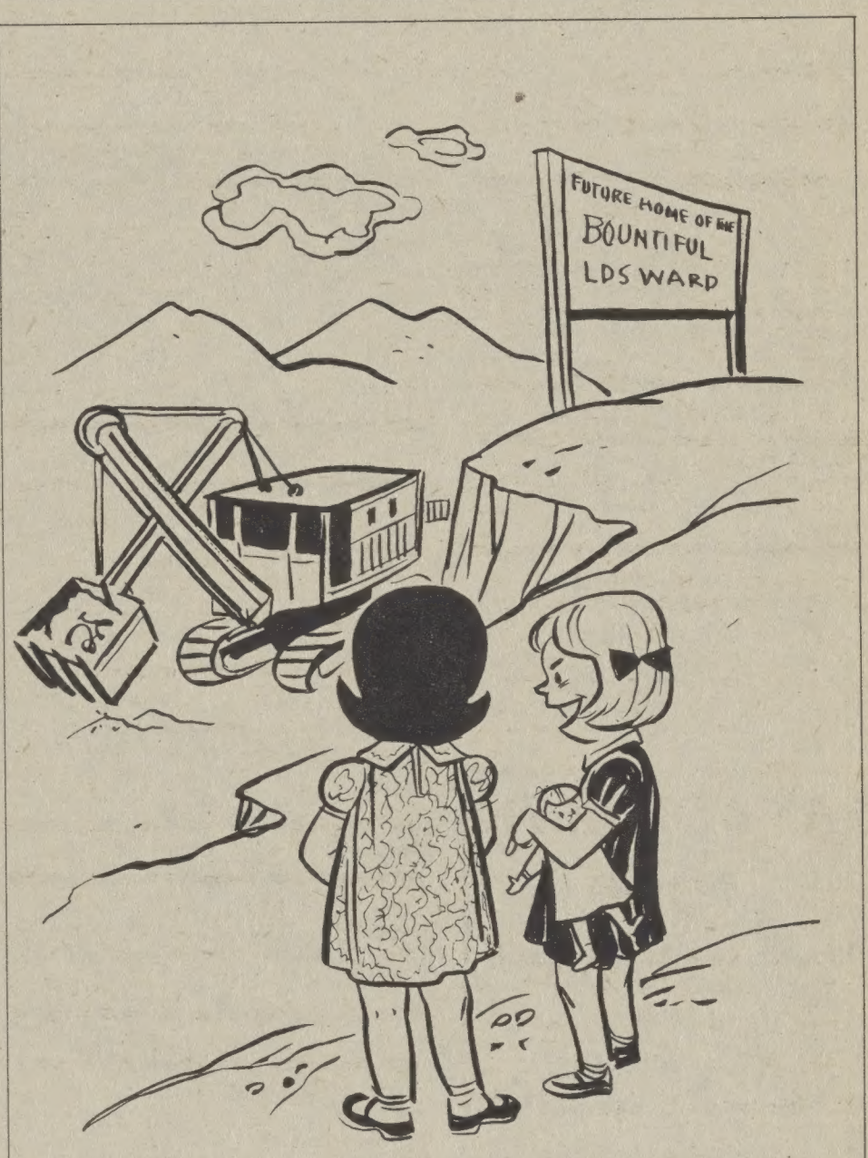
I don't want to be an alarmist, but I think the palm trees at the Interstake center are getting *shorter,* instead of *taller,* as normal trees do. In fact, I think they'er getting shorter by leaps and bounds!

What we may have here is a rare breed of palm tree that grows down instead of up; you plant a baby palm tree that is say 30 feet tall, and in 20 years it has grown into a fully matured seed. Instead of the tree going all to seed in the spring, the seed goes all to tree, dropping tall palm trees all around to take root in the soil, so that they, too, may grow into seeds one day.

There is another possible explanation. As we know, plants respond in various ways to music. Experiments show that tomato plants treated to, say , Sing-Along-With-Mitch, grow taller than those left to their own entertainment. It may be that the Mormon Tabernacle Choir, which is broadcast over the Interstake Center grouds, has a reverse effect on palm trees. If this is true, perhaps we should consider some other choice of Gospel Music; Tennessee Ernie Ford, for example, or The Supremes.

I have heard a well-corroborated rumor that the real reason the trees keep getting smaller is that the grounds-keeper periodically yanks out the old palm trees and plants new, smaller ones. This would account for the leaping and bounding effect, previously noted. The reason for such behaviour on the part of the grounds-keeper is that the roots of the palm trees keep drowning, or freezing, or something. It seems the soil conditions up there on the rock are not ideal for palm trees. It may yet come to pass that we will see Chinese Elms, or Weeping Willows, adorning the grounds.

I have to admit, however, that the palm trees are very lovely, if you look fast, and I wish them every success in overcoming whatever the problem is.



"They've been digging all afternoon for our new ward house, but they haven't found it yet."

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The Church in the '60s

From Henry A. Smith
LDS Church Press Secretary

—The decade of the 1960's has been one of extensive worldwide expansion for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

In the ten year period the church's membership has increased approximately 1,200,000 to bring the total at the close of 1969 to an estimated 2,815,000. There were 1,616,088 members when the decade began.

The ten year increase represents a 74 percent gain, or an average of 7.4 percent each year. It took 117 years, or until 1947, to acquire its first million members. The second million was achieved in 16 years being reached in 1963.

The decade of the 60's witnessed the greatest world expansion of any like period in church history. In 1960 there was but one Mormon stake outside of the United States and Canada. That was in Auckland, New Zealand, organized in 1958. Today there are 37 such stakes organized in foreign lands. These include seven in England, seven in Australia, seven in New Zealand, four in Germany, four in South America, two in Mexico, two in Samoa and one each in Holland, Switzerland and Tonga.

The decade began with 290 stakes and ended with a total of 496, an increase of 206. In these stakes there were 2,614 wards and branches in 1960 and presently there are 4,581. The decade began with 50 missions and ended with 89, the newest one being organized a few months ago in southeast Asia.

There are presently more than 12,000 full-time missionaries compared with 5,500 when the decade started. Today's Mormon missionaries, each serving two years at his own expense, are in most of the free world.

Increase Noted

To provide for the greatly expanded membership of the 1960's there was noted also a corresponding increase in the physical facilities—chapels, schools, seminary buildings, etc., as well as organizational changes and extensive correlation of activities and programming.

During the decade the Church erected 2,158 new chapels. Of this number 1,558 were in the United States and Canada; 214 in Europe; 204 in Mexico, Central and South America; 23 in South Africa; 131 in the South Pacific including the islands, Australia and New Zealand, and 28 in the Orient.

The decade saw 69 new school buildings erected exclusive of those on the campuses of Bringham Young University and Ricks College. Most of these new schools were erected in the South Pacific, Mexico and South America. To provide daily religious education for Mormon students in high schools and colleges, the Church built 113 seminary buildings and 81 institute buildings in the past ten years.

One new temple at Oakland, California, was erected in the decade and work was started last year on two other Utah temples.

There have been scores of special building projects during the decade including the new David O. McKay Hospital in Ogden, and large additions to church hospitals in Salt Lake City, Logan, and Idaho Falls.

Extensive building took place on Temple Square in Salt Lake City including erection of a new Visitors Center, a Temple Annex, and an entire basement addition beneath the century-old Salt Lake Tabernacle. As the decade closed work was started on a new 25-story Church Office building which will rise over a three-story-deep parking plaza constructed earlier in the decade.

21 Languages

To meet the needs of the increasing membership in foreign lands the Church has greatly expanded a program of translation and distribution. Church lesson manuals, instruction materials, records, etc., are now published in 21 languages, a development during the decade. There are translation and distribution centers in Salt Lake City and nine foreign cities, namely, Sao Paulo, Mexico City, Auckland, Frankfurt, Copenhagen, Liege, Hong Kong, Deoul and Tokyo. The latest languages include Indonesian, Thai and Vietnamese. A unified church magazine is published in 17 languages.

Microfilming of genealogical records has gone forward during the 60's in 18 countries including Hungargy and Poland. To house these important microfilm records under ideal storage conditions and with a maximum of safety, the Church opened in 1963 a huge bomb-proof storage vault carved into the granite mountains south of Salt Lake City. It has a storage capacity of nine million rolls of microfilm and presently contains 700,000 rolls of records gleaned from around the world. This is the equivalent of over three million printed volumes of 300 pages each.

To provide for more effective direction of the church's program and activities the decade saw the world missions divided into more than a dozen areas with a member of the Council of the Twelve apostles supervising each area assisted by the other general authorities.

124 Regions

As stakes have multiplied, the decade also witnessed creation of regions wherein stakes in geographical areas are grouped together for more efficiency in direction, education and supervision. There are 124 such regions supervised by 74 Regional Representatives of the Twelve. Many of these newly appointed supervisory officers live within or adjacent to the regions they direct.

In the early part of the decade one of the most important movements in the history of Mormonism was launched; the Church Correlation Program was announced in 1961 following many months of committee work and planning. A Coordinating Council was formed and three coordinating committees organized, one for the adults, one for the youth and one for the children. Each committee is headed by one of the Twelve Apostles.

The decade has produced considerable achievement in many objectives of the program which were "to formulate policy which will govern the planning, the writing, coordination and implementation of the entire Church curriculum." Progress within the framework of correlation has brought about unification, consolidation, and simplification of curriculum, publications, meetings and many other aspects of the Church program.

Participation growth

During the decade, activities and participation of members in the Church program have kept pace with the membership growth. Relief Society has increased in active membership from 203,752 in 1960 to approximately 320,000 at the end of 1969. Sunday School average attendance has grown from 594,978 to nearly 900,000 in the ten-year period. Combined enrollment in the Mutual Improvement Associations was 395,800 in 1960 and ends the decade with approximately 670,000. The Primary Association for children had an enrollment ten years ago of 311,240 and now has an estimated 475,000.

Numbers of male members of the Church ordained to the priesthood is another indication of the increased activity of the decade. In 1960 this total was 428,650. Today it exceeds 670,000.

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Let me forgive . . . then forget.
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Let me know love . . . I can't go wrong.

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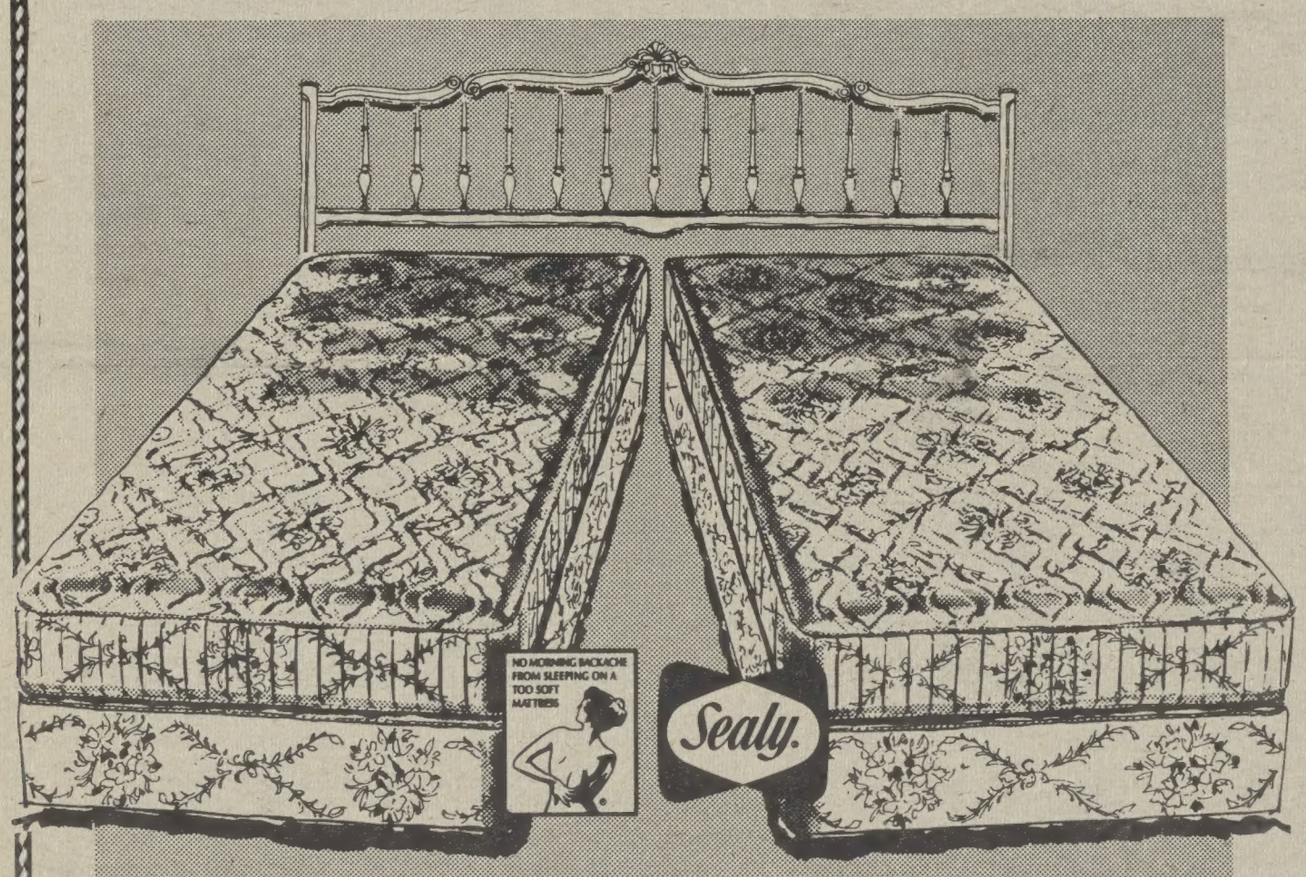

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